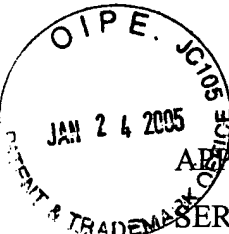


**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANT: Monica Joshi et al.  
SERIAL NO.: 09/745,280  
FILING DATE: December 20, 2000  
TITLE: PORT ISOLATION FOR RESTRICTING TRAFFIC FLOW ON  
LAYER 2 SWITCHES  
EXAMINER: Sefcheck, Gregory B.  
TELEPHONE: (571) 272-3098  
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ART UNIT: 2662

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria VA 22313-1450, on the date printed below:

Date: 1/18/05 Name: Sharon E. Byam  
Sharon E. Byam

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

This paper is responsive to the Final Office Action mailed **November 22, 2004**. Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.